

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of humanities and Social Sciences

**Ambition for Power as Cause of Tragedy in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar***

A thesis submitted to the Central Department of English T.U. in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in English

Submitted By:  
Dammar Singh Saud

**Central Department of English**  
**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**  
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Dammar Singh Saud

## **Abstract**

This research seeks to present William Shakespeare's historical play *Julius Caesar* as tragedy. The tragic end of each character in the play *Julius Caesar* is result of their ambition for power. Much of the play's tragedy stems from the character's desire for power, neglect of private feelings and loyalties in favor of what they believe to be the public good. The play is struggle of what it meant to be 'Roman.' Both Brutus and Caesar are stubborn, rather ambitious and inflexible characters ultimately suffer fatally for it. The tragic end of the protagonists in this play *Julius Caesar* is tragic flaw in its latent form and political ambition in manifestation. Brutus' rigid faith upon republican norms and Caesar's over confidence on his strength lead them to their own doom.

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